

Ref. No.

What is claimed is:

1. A method of realistically displaying and interacting with electronic files comprising the steps of:

5 separating an electronic file into a plurality of sub-elements;

 instantiating a frame manager object for controlling user interface frame windows; and

 generating a primary frame for displaying an initial sub-element.

10 2. A method as claimed in Claim 1 further comprising the step of responsive to an appropriate user action, generating a secondary frame for another sub-element.

3. A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the frame manager object includes a list of frames generated.

15

4. A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the primary frame is singular.

Ref. No.

5. A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the step of generating the primary frame includes the step of generating an invisible frame.

5 6. A method as claimed in Claim 4 wherein the invisible frame is used to control closing an application using the frame manager object.

7. A method as claimed in Claim 2 wherein the primary frame includes a user selectable object.

10 8. A method as claimed in Claim 6 wherein the appropriate user action includes selecting the user selectable object.

9. A method as claimed in Claim 2 wherein the primary frame includes a plurality of user selectable object.

15 10. A method as claimed in Claim 8 wherein the appropriate user action includes selecting one of the plurality user selectable objects.

11. A software architecture for graphically displaying electronic files comprising:

Ref. No.

an application executable;

a frame manager object instantiatable by the application executable for managing all frame windows needed by the application; and

an initial frame window for displaying a sub-element of a file.

5

12. A software architecture as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the initial frame window controls creation and destruction of further frame windows.

13. A software architecture as claimed in Claim 13 wherein further frame windows are each for displaying a sub-element of a file.

10

14. A software architecture as claimed in Claim 13 wherein each further frame window includes an extension manager.

15. A software architecture as claimed in Claim 14 wherein the extension manager controls enhancement extensions.

15

16. A software architecture as claimed in Claim 14 wherein the extension manager controls document extensions.